Parishads (ZPs) directly. During the year 2000-01, total allocation under IWDP has been enhanced from Rs. 82.00 crores in 1999-2000 to Rs. 130.00 crores and consequently, the releases to DRDAs / ZPs will also be increased. NGOs can also act as Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) under IWDP scheme, but the projects are sanctioned to DRDAs / Zilla Parishads only.

Sanitation requirements in rural areas

5622. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey to assess the sanitation requirements in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No State-wise survey has recently been made by the Central Government to assess the sanitation requirements in the rural areas of the country. However, it is estimated that rural sanitation coverage is around 16 to 20 per cent of the total rural households in the country. The Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission for the 9th Plan had estimated a financial requirement of Rs. 6251 crores for attaining 50 per cent rural sanitation coverage.

MICMR programmes for rural women

5623. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Construction Management and Research has undertaken a programme to train rural women in computer and other vocational skills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NICMAR is also providing training to women in skills of plumbing, wiring, white washing plastering;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed by Government to provide job opportunities to these trained women?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) to (e) No such training programme has been organized by this

Ministry through the National Institute of Construction Management and Research (NICMAR).

Performance of JGSY

5624. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a special fund to encourage development activities in the neglected rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have reviewed the performance and functioning of Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY);

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether the grant provided to States under JGSY has been utilised by them; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at this stage to set up a special fund under Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) exclusively for neglected rural areas since the scope of JGSY extends to all rural areas including neglected rural areas of each and every district of the country excepting Delhi and Chandigarh.

(c) to (f) JGSY has been launched with effect from 01.4.1999 after restructuring Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). Though detailed evaluation of JGSY has not been done, since it was launched only last year, the financial and physical progress of the programme is, however, being regularly monitored at the Centre through monthly progress reports received from the States/UTs. Physical and financial performance under JGSY during 1999-2000 is given in the Annexure. (*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 132)

Empowerment of 'Gram Sabha'

5625. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to empower "Gram Sabha" with financial power and authority to quicken the decentralisation of administration and planning; and

(b) in what way Government propose to ensure that funds under Gram Samridhi Yojana reach Panchayats actually and ensure no diversion of funds?